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associating the limited-use credit card number with a customer account number and  
f conditions;

detecting a transaction using the limited-use credit card number; and

processing the transaction in accordance with the set of conditions associated with  
-use credit card number.

②

<sup>30</sup>  
~~32.~~ The method of claim <sup>29</sup>~~31~~ wherein the event trigger is the use of more than a preset amount of limited-use credit card numbers.

31  
33. The method of claim 30<sup>28</sup> wherein processing the transaction comprises:  
authorizing or denying the transaction by comparing the transaction to the set of  
conditions associated with the limited-use credit card number;

determining whether a limited-use event has occurred; and  
deactivating the limited-use credit card number based on the limited-use event  
and/or the set of conditions associated with limited-use credit card number.

32 31  
34. The method of claim ~~33~~ further comprising:  
assigning another limited-use credit card number in response to deactivating the  
limited-use credit card number; and  
associating said other limited-use credit card number with the customer account  
number.

37 28  
35. The method of claim ~~30~~ further comprising:  
maintaining a queue of available limited-use credit card numbers; and  
assigning the limited-use credit card number from the queue.

34 28  
36. The method of claim ~~30~~, wherein issuing the limited-use credit card number  
comprises:  
downloading the limited-use credit card number to a user.

35 34  
37. The method of claim ~~36~~, wherein the limited-use credit card number is encrypted  
prior to downloading.

<sup>36</sup>  
38. The method of claim <sup>28</sup>30, wherein issuing the limited-use credit card number comprises:

mailing the limited-use credit card number to a user.

<sup>37</sup>  
39. The method of claim <sup>28</sup>30 further comprising:  
notifying a user about parameters of the limited-use credit card system.

<sup>38</sup>  
40. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>39, wherein the user is notified via e-mail.

<sup>39</sup>  
41. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>39, wherein the parameters of the limited-use credit card system comprise records of limited-use and other card transactions.

<sup>40</sup>  
42. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>39, wherein the parameters of the limited-use credit card system comprise use of the limited-use credit card number in a credit card transaction.

<sup>41</sup>  
43. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>39, wherein the parameters of the limited-use credit card system comprise a number of limited-use credit card number available to the user.

<sup>42</sup>  
44. The method of claim <sup>38</sup>39 wherein the set of conditions are defined by a user of the limited-use credit card.

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<sup>48</sup> 50. The method of claim <sup>48</sup>~~44~~, wherein the set of conditions limits the use of the limited-use credit card number to a set number of transactions for a maximum transaction value within a set time.

<sup>49</sup>  
~~51~~. The method of claim ~~44~~<sup>42</sup>, wherein the set of conditions limits the use of the limited-use credit card number to a single purpose.

*Sub C1*  
<sup>50</sup>  
~~52~~. The method of claim ~~44~~<sup>42</sup>, wherein the set of conditions comprise at least one of the group consisting of transaction value conditions, time of transaction conditions, number of transactions conditions, frequency of transactions conditions, and purpose of transaction conditions, merchant type conditions, and geographical conditions.

*Sub C2*  
<sup>51</sup>  
~~53~~. The method of claim ~~30~~<sup>28</sup>, further comprising:  
dispensing a credit card containing the limited-use credit card number.

<sup>52</sup>  
~~54~~. The method of claim ~~51~~<sup>49</sup>, wherein an automated teller machine dispenses the credit card.

<sup>53</sup>  
~~55~~. The credit card system of claim ~~51~~<sup>49</sup>, wherein dispensing the credit card comprises:  
printing out an indication of the limited-use credit card number for delivery to a user.

<sup>54</sup>  
~~56~~. The method of claim ~~30~~<sup>28</sup>, further comprising:

dispensing the limited-use credit card number to a user via a telecommunications  
system.

*Sub C3*  
<sup>55</sup>  
~~57~~. The method of claim <sup>52</sup>~~54~~, wherein the telecommunications system comprises a  
pager.

*Sub C3*  
<sup>54</sup>  
~~58~~. The method of claim <sup>52</sup>~~54~~, wherein the telecommunications system comprises a  
mobile phone.

*Sub C3*  
<sup>57</sup>  
~~59~~. The method of claim <sup>28</sup>~~30~~, further comprising:  
initiating the transaction using the limited-use credit card number via a  
telecommunications system.

*Sub C4*  
<sup>58</sup>  
~~60~~. The method of claim <sup>55</sup>~~57~~, wherein the telecommunications system comprises a  
pager.

*Sub C4*  
<sup>59</sup>  
~~61~~. The method of claim <sup>55</sup>~~57~~, wherein the telecommunications system comprises a  
mobile phone. --